

Current Trends in Autism



Featuring

Peter Bell

Executive Vice President for Autism Speaks

January 28, 2010

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

University of Missouri Campus

Ketchum Auditorium in Lafferre Hall

Columbia, MO

Who can attend?

This event is free and open to the public. Anyone interested in learning about current issues in autism spectrum disorders is welcome to attend.

Who is Peter Bell?

Peter Bell is executive vice president for programs and services at Autism Speaks. Autism Speaks is the nation's largest autism science and advocacy organization, dedicated to funding research into the causes, prevention, treatments and a cure for autism; increasing awareness of autism spectrum disorders; and advocating for the needs of individuals with autism and their families. Peter oversees the foundation's government relations and family services activities and also serves as an advisor to the science division. In addition, on an interim basis, he is overseeing the organization's communications and awareness efforts. Prior to his role at Autism Speaks, Bell was president and CEO of Cure Autism Now, which merged with Autism Speaks in February 2007.

Peter joined Cure Autism Now in 2004 following a successful 12-year marketing career at McNeil Consumer & Specialty Pharmaceuticals, a member of the Johnson & Johnson family of companies. As president and CEO, Peter led Cure Autism Now through a tremendous growth period and brought the foundation's funding total to more than \$39 million. In addition, Peter enhanced the foundation's research, education and outreach initiatives and expanded the foundation's treatment portfolio. Prior to joining the Cure Autism Now staff, Peter was a founding member of the Philadelphia chapter and served on the board of directors. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Cornell University and holds an MBA from the Kellogg School at Northwestern University.

Peter and his wife, Liz, reside in New Jersey with their three children. Their eldest son, Tyler, has autism.

**For more information contact Robin Marsh • MU Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders
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